

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. - 20. (CANCELLED)

21. (currently amended) A method for generating notifications, comprising:
receiving event data at customer premise equipment, said event data is received via a network from a server located remote from said customer premise equipment, said event data provides information about an event occurring within a program not currently being viewed, said customer premise equipment is local to a user and said server is located remote from said user;
comparing said event data to an alert parameter, said comparison is performed at and by said customer premise equipment, said customer premise equipment stores said alert parameter for only one output device; and
providing an alert for [[a]] said user of said customer premise equipment via said output device if said received event data satisfies said alert parameter.

22. (currently amended) A method according to claim 21, further comprising:
providing a mechanism for said user to tune in said program not currently being viewed on said output device in response to said alert, said output device is a television.

23. (currently amended) A method according to claim 22, wherein:
said providing a mechanism includes displaying a user interface which provides an input item for a user to select and tuning in said program not currently being viewed in response to said user selecting said input item.

24. (previously presented) A method according to claim 21, further comprising:
providing a mechanism for said user to record said program not currently being viewed in

response to said alert.

25. (previously presented) A method according to claim 21, wherein:
said event data includes event messages; and
said event messages includes a channel number, event categorization and event description.

26. (currently amended) A method according to claim 21, further comprising:
displaying a first program on said output device, said program not currently being viewed is a second program; and
providing a mechanism for said user to tune in said second program in response to said alert.

27. (currently amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein:
said first program and said second program are broadcast television programs; and
said providing a mechanism includes displaying an interface on a television displaying said output device while said output device is displaying said first program, said output device is a television.

28. (previously presented) A method according to claim 21, further comprising:
providing an interface for said user to specify said alert parameter;
receiving said alert parameter via said interface; and
storing said alert parameter.

29. (previously amended) A method according to claim 21, wherein:
said customer premise equipment includes a set-top box running JavaScript code; and
said JavaScript code performs said receiving event data, comparing said event data and providing said alert.

30. (currently amended) A method according to claim 21, wherein:
said receiving event data includes receiving said event data from [[a]] said server located at a head-end premises.

31. (currently amended) A method for generating notifications, comprising:
receiving event data at customer premise equipment, said event data provides information about a first event occurring within a first visual program, said event data is received via a network from a server ~~at a head-end premises~~ located remote from said customer premise equipment;

comparing said event data to an alert parameter, said comparison is performed at and by said customer premise equipment, said customer premise equipment performs said comparison for only one output device, said customer premise equipment is directly connected to said output device; and

providing an alert for [[a]] said user of said customer premise equipment via said output device if said received event data matches an alert parameter stored at said customer premise equipment.

32. (previously presented) A method according to claim 31, wherein:
said event data is received while a second visual program is displayed in association with said customer premise equipment.

33. (CANCELLED)

34. (previously presented) A method according to claim 31, wherein:
said alert indicates an occurrence of said first event; and
said alert parameter identifies said first event.

35. (currently amended) A system for generating alerts to events in programs, comprising:

customer premise equipment running a user preference application and an alert generation application, said customer premise equipment is in communication with head-end equipment in order to receive event data from said head-end equipment via a network, said customer premise equipment is local to a video monitor and said head-end equipment is located remote from said video monitor, said event data provides information about a first event occurring within a television program not currently being viewed in association with said customer premise equipment, said user preference application manages data that indicates which events to generate alerts for, said alert generation application compares said received event data with said data that indicates which events to generate alerts for, said comparison is performed at and by said customer premise equipment, said customer premise equipment is directly connected to said video monitor, said alert generation application generates an alert if there is a match between said received event data and said data that indicates which events to generate alerts for.

36. (previously presented) A system according to claim 35, wherein:

said customer premise equipment includes a set-top box.

37. (currently amended) A system of claim 35, wherein,

said video monitor displays a user interface, said user interface reports said alert and provides an input item for said user to tune to said television program in response to said alert.

38. (currently amended) A system of claim 35, wherein,

said video monitor displays a user interface, said user interface reports said alert and provides an input item that allows said user to record the first program.

39. (currently amended) A system of claim 35, wherein,

said video monitor displays a user interface, said user interface receives an input from said user, said input corresponds to said data that indicates which events to generate alerts for.

40. (new) A method according to claim 21, wherein:

said server is a network service provider receiving data feeds from one or more data feed providers.

41. (new) A method according to claim 31, wherein:

said server is a network service provider receiving data feeds from one or more data feed providers.

42. (new) A method according to claim 31, wherein:

said server is located at a head-end premises.

43. (new) A system for providing event-driven programming, comprising:
a server providing event data; and

customer premise equipment located remote from said server, said customer premise equipment receives said event data for a first program, said customer premise equipment is in communication with said server, said event data is received at said customer premise equipment from said server, said customer premise equipment stores an alert parameter for only one output device and compares said received event data to said alert parameter, said customer premise equipment provides an alert for said user via said output device if said received event data satisfies said alert parameter, said output device is displaying a second program when said customer premise equipment receives said event data, said first program is different than said second program and broadcast at a same time as said second program.

44. (new) A system according to claim 43, wherein:

said customer premise equipment includes a set-top box connected to a video monitor.